

~~On page 5, line 9, after "electrochemically." insert --As shown in the figures, the fixation device may also be formed, for example, by etching from a tubing, building from wires (e.g., as a cylinder), etc.--.~~

~~On page 6, line 11, delete "a mask for etching of a flat design of".~~

~~On page 6, line 12, after "Fig. 7" insert --in flat form--.~~

~~On page 7, line 15, after "procedure" insert --, such as, for example, self expansion--.~~

~~On page 8, line 15, after "40" insert --, in the form of an anchoring ring 42,--.~~

~~On page 8, line 19, change "42" to --44--.~~

~~On page 10, line 22, delete "of a mask for etching of".~~

~~On page 10, line 23, delete "a flat design", and after "Fig. 7" insert --in flat form--.~~

In the Drawings:

Please amend Fig. 3B as shown in red on the attached sheet.

**REMARKS**

This Preliminary Amendment amends the specification and a drawing in Application No.09/004,420. The specification and drawing have been amended to more particularly point out and clarify the subject matter that Applicants regard as the invention. The amendments to the specification and drawing do not add new matter to the application.

Applicants assert that the present invention is new, non-obvious, and useful.

Consideration and allowance of the claims are requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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